

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR HOUSING A SIGNAL CONNECTOR**

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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

10 SMT Serial ATA signal connectors mounted to printed circuit boards are  
protected from excessive stress applied by a mating signal connector, such as during  
connection and disconnection of a mating signal connector cable or by forces applied  
to a connected cable, with a protective housing that fits as a separate piece to the  
mounted signal connector to align an opening that allows connection of the mating  
cable connector to the mounting tongue of the mounted signal connector. The inner  
surface walls of the protective housing absorb forces applied at the mating signal  
15 connector to reduce the risk of breakage of the mating tongue or of the mounting of  
the signal connector to the printed circuit board, such as mounting only by solder of  
the electrical connections or mounting with board locks.